

the future is an open book



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Thank you, Nawaoka-otō-san. This is Sagami. (Bows)

It's been almost a month since the last event in Kyoto, and I've been working hard with a packed schedule. The first half of this book is a revised reprint from a year ago... It's been awhile, and it turned into a pretty hot, flirty manga, but sometimes I want it to be light and laid-back too, so that's what it ended up as. Now then, on with the book~



FATE-
CHAN!



HEY, WHAT
SORT OF
BOOKS DID
YOU READ
BEFORE?

HUH,
I NEVER
KNEW YOU
LOVED TO
READ SO
MUCH.



THE ONLY
BOOKS WE
WERE REALLY
ALLOWED TO
READ WERE
ARCANE TONES
AND BATTLE
MAGIC
BOOKS...

AH...
UM...



BUT WHEN I
WAS LITTLE,
LUNETH
WOULD READ
PICTURE
BOOKS TO ME.



THE TRUTH IS...



SHE'S SO ENMORSESSD IN
THOSE BOOKS, THAT WE
DONT GET AS MUCH
TIME TO TALK ANYMORE.



IT'S NOT
ALL BAD.

...
WELL.



...HEY,
NARUKA!



DO YOU
BELIEVE
IN A
GOD?



KANCHAN



I KNEW
YOU'D
REACT
LIKE
THAT.

DID SOME
STRANGE
PEOPLE
COME
KNOCKING
ON YOUR
DOOR?

WH-
WHY'D
YOU
KNOW,
FATE-
CHANN?



THAT
THERE ARE
CONSTANT
STRUGGLES
OVER WHICH
GOD TO
BELIEVE IN.

THE
INFORMATION
I READ SAID
THAT IN THIS
WORLD,
RELIGION
HELD A
GREAT DEAL
OF POWER.

BEFORE I
CAME TO
THIS
WORLD, I
STUDIED UP
ON IT A
LITTLE.



YEAH, I'M NOT
SURPRISED
YOU FEEL
THAT WAY,
LIVING
IN THIS
COUNTRY.

AHH,
I SEE.

BUT NOW
THAT I'M
LIVING HERE,
I DON'T GET
THAT
IMPRESSION
AT ALL. I
JUST
THOUGHT IT
WAS
STRANGE.

I
CAN'T
EXPLAIN
IT
REALLY
WELL.....

I
SUPPOSE
IT'S MORE
LIKE WE'RE
TOO CLOSE
TO OUR
GODS.
HERE-



NOT
QUITE.

AHH
...



YOU
MEAN
THERE IS
NO GOD
IN THIS
COUNTRY?

?



AND THE
CHAIR
YOU'RE
SITTING
ON. GODS
ARE IN
ALL OF
THEM.

THE
BOOKS
THAT
YOU'RE
READING
NOW.



SO
SINCE WE
BELIEVE
THAT GOD
IS EVERY-
WHERE,

IT'S SO
EVERYDAY
THAT WE
DON'T PAY
ANY
SPECIAL
ATTENTION
TO IT...I
GUESSED



W-
WOW...

WE HAVE A
SAIDING,
THAT GOD
IS IN EACH
AND EVERY
GRAIN OF
RICE.



NO, I
LEARNED
SOMETHING.



SORRY.



I DON'T
REALLY
UNDER-
STAND IT
MYSELF.



HAHA
...

I THINK
THAT'S
ALL
GOD
REALLY
NEEDS
TO BE.



"WHEN MAN
HAS GRATITUDE
WITHOUT
ANYONE ON
WHICH TO
BESTOW IT, HE
THINKS OF
GOD"



THIS IS
A QUOTE.

FROM A
BOOK I
READ
BEFORE.



THAT I WAS
ABLE TO
MEET YOU,
FATE-CHUN.

I'M
GRATEFUL
TO GOD
EVERYDAY.

SO...



I
UNDER-
STAND.
I GET
IT NOW.



—AH—

THANK YOU,
GOD.

T/N: The second part of this story is an extended allusion to "Night on the Galactic Railroad" by Kenji Miyazawa. The story is fairly well-known in Japan, but not so much outside the country. You should consider reading the book or watching the 1985 anime movie to understand all the references.



~*~*~

~*~*~

~*~*~



GOOD
MORNING,
FATE-CHAN.



OH A
TRAIN?

NANOHA
...
WHAT...
WHY ARE
WE



DON'T YOU
REMEMBER,
FATE-CHAN?

HAH, IT'S
MORE OF
A LOGO-
MOTIVE?





WE WILL
SOON BE
ARRIVING
AT THE
SOUTHERN
CROSS.

THOSE WHO
ARE GETTING
OFF, PLEASE
PREPARE
YOURSELVES.





OVER THERE...
IN THAT
CROWD
OF PEOPLE
...

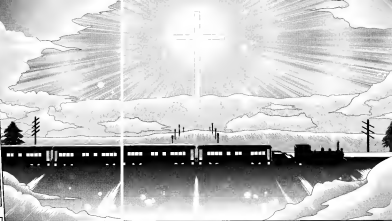
WHAT'S
WRONG?



...YOU
CAN'T,
FATE-CHANGE



I THINK I
SEE SOME
OF MY
LOVED
ONES OVER
THERE...



HALLE-
LUJAH!



HALLE-
LUJAH!



YEAH...

...IT'S
AMAZING!



YEAH.



THE ONLY
PEOPLE WHO
CAN GET OFF
HERE ARE
THE ONES
WHO WENT
TO HEAVEN.



"k-k-chank"

"k-k-chank"



12



I WOULD
DO
ANYTHING
FOR YOU

TO
MAKE
SURE
YOU
WERE
TRULY
HAPPY.



YOU
KNOW

I
THOUGHT
BACK
THEN.







...YOU
PROBABLY WON'T
REMEMBER
THIS
WHEN
YOU WAKE UP.



BUT
WHY?



I KNOW
I'LL BE
ALRIGHT.

BUT
HEARING
YOU SAY
THOSE
WORDS
TO ME...



Money?

I GOT
THE
FEELING
THAT
WE'LL
HAVE TO
DEAL
WITH A
LOT OF
PAIN IN
THE
FUTURE.



...
NANOMU?

SO
DON'T
WORRY.

I'LL
DEFINITELY
MAKE IT
THROUGH.

FOR YOUR
HAPPINESS
PATE-CHAN.





HELLO...
HELLO?



Y-YOU
GAVE
ME A
FRIGHT!



AND
SEEING
YOU
ASLEEP, I
DIDN'T
WANT TO
WAKE
YOU.

SORRY,
FATE-CHAN.
THE STUDENT
COUNCIL
MEETING
TOOK LONGER
THAN I
THOUGHT
IT WOULD.



WH-
WHAT'S
WRONG,
FATE-
CHAN?



...!





And done~.

Thank you for reading!

I wasn't sure what I really wanted to say with the second half of this message...

I originally wanted to set Nauefate in the Galactic Railroad book, but since I cut out the Pioneer shore and Aikawa observatory scenes you can't tell I should have sorted the materials out sooner...Rather, I should have started it before the yearly Kyoto Gae...

In that way, I do have a lot of regrets with this book, but I'm happy that I was able to slide into the end of the year having drawn a Nauefate comic. I didn't draw at all this year...I'll try harder for the new year!

Well, I'll leave it there. Good health to all!

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The Future is an Open Book

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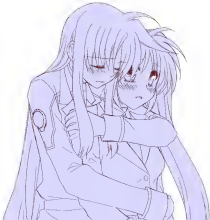
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Cat's
moon



